THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1928

On the Huntersville road as you approach Marlinton, the boundary of town is crossed just round the sharp turn of the hill, and before there is any intimation that a town is any where near. The next turn shows a large, twenty acre, unfenced clearing on the prehistoric river terrace, some thing like a hundred feet above the level of Knapps creek. This is called the Hamilton field, and at the time the town was projected was a part of the A. M. McLaughlin farm. The field comes down close to the court house being bounded on that side by a beautiful natural grassy bank. This twenty acres will form the next important annex to the town. It is already encircled on half its boundary by a hard surfaced state highway, in other words, the Huntersville road.

It is in turn bounded by a higher terrace or flat of several hundred acres all of which is in the city limits and it would seem that it was the natural place for the center of the town, but the fact that the

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It is in turn bounded by a higher terrace or flat of several hundred acres all of which is in the city limits and it would seem that it was the natural place for the center of the town, but the fact that the railroad follows the river left it to one side of the court house while the building was done on the other or railroad side. There is another reason too why it was not built upon. It was reserved for the millionaire's row, and in those days when hopes ran high, it was consdered to be but a matter of time when there would be a millionaire set in town and so we determined to park them on the beautiful heights on the eastern border of the town. But the millionaire did not materialize. The time came when the heighth of the average man's ambition was to have a car and a gallon of gasoline and the world was his'n. So it looks now as if the natural growth of the town would reach out and take in the Hamilton field and that it would

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On the terrace next above the Hamilton field is the site of the farm once called the Powell place, now generally referred to as Cemetery Hill. It was the part of the plantation on which my father was born, and he rests within a few steps of his birth place.

The names of these fields are from the men who cleared them. I do not know who Powell was but the Hamilton field was named for William Hamilton who married into the community.

In 1855, while Sam Houston was still the dictator of Texas he moved to central Texas and was sheriff of Blanco county during its most terrible days, when the Comanche Indians went on the war path and carried death and destruction all through that part of Texas.

Sam Houston was born in 1793 in Rockbridge county. Hamilton was born in 1811 and died in Blanco county, Texas, in 1894. Houston died in 1862. But Austin, the capital city

went on the war path and carried death and destruction all through that part of Texas.

Sam Houston was born in 1793 in Rockbridge county. Hamilton was born in 1811 and died in Blanco county, Texas, in 1894. Houston died in 1862. But Austin, the capital city, is next to Blanco county and Houston was governor of the state of Texas in 1859, and up to his death, and they must have been together a great deal. Houston was governor when the state seceded and he refused to sign the order, and the secession of the state broke him so that he died. Houston had worked for many years to bring Texas into the Union and he could not survive the action taken to secede

When the first company was formed for the confederacy at Huntsville, the home of Sam Houston, he was asked to review the troops. This he consented to do. He put on his big blue army uniform. He called an imaginary roll of all those politicians of the vicinity who had favored secession. None answered. Then he called the names of the sons of these men and none answered. Then he called the name of his son Sam Houston, Jr., who had enlisted as a southern soldier with his father's consent. Young Houston answered present. The old war horse said in the most impressive way:

"A striking thing it is that those who are most invincible in time of peace are most invisible in war.

The significance of this utterance

Houston, Jr., who had enlisted as a southern soldier with his father's consent. Young Houston answered present. The old war horse said in the most impressive way:

"A striking thing it is that those who are most invincible in time of peace are most invisible in war.

The significance of this utterance ies in the fact that the seceders did not anticipate that they were bring ing on a war. They were relying on their construction of a point of law.

When they put one of th national conventions in Texas this year and Clem Shaver went down there to plow the first furrow and break the ground for the great building that is being constucted there in which the throng is to yip and yelp its tedious way through a kind of a war dance, the minds of the old timers went back to other days when the saying was that nobody went to Texas except for a cause, and they told a tale of the experience meeting in a tavern where the crowd agreed to confess what each had gone to Texas for. One said one thing and one said another and all had sufficient cause to move, until the last man said that the reason he had come was because he had refused to build a church. This caused ques tions to be asked, and it appeared that in some eastern community they has raised a fund to build a church

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But that is all a figment. A lot of our people with the restless foot went there. My grandfather on my mother's side went there with my grand mother, my mother a baby in the arms, and a negro man. They stayed about a year, and the colored man died. My grandfather sat by his grave all night and the next day started back home. My stepgrand mother married as a widow Big Foot Wallace and he was a great hero. Once when captured by the Mexicans the order was death to one half of the prisoners and liberty to the other half to spread the news of the penalty It was to be determined by drawing beans from a bag, a black bean, death, white bean, liberty. Big Foot Wallace drew a white bean. One of his comrades who was in a sweat of apprehension begged for it and Wallace gave it to him. Then

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Wallace drew another white bean. In after years he said that he had noticed the difference in the shape of the beans.

William Hamilton was certainly a good citizen and a worthy man. He married Medora Sabina Price, May 14, 1834, on the edge of his clearing, she being my great aunt. They lived in Bath county for a number of years and had seven daughters and three sons. Mrs. Hamilton died in Blanco county in 1882. I am trying to find out about this family. With those ten children there must be a wonderful lot of Texans that date back to the sheriff of Blanco.

It was on Powell Hill that my great grandmother, Margaret Beard Price, lived. I am part Beard for there is where I get my disposition She was the widow of Thomas Price, who died in 1823. aged about eighty years. Margaret Beard was from Renicks Valley. She was much younger than her husband who had raised a large family by his first wife, ElizabethTaylor. At the time of the death of Thomas Price, they lived in Botetourt county.

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Thomas Price was one of the five Thomas Prices who fought in the Revolution. He was known as the Thomas Price of Botetourt county. This late marriage with Margaret Beard puts me one generation closer to the Revolution than most men of my age, and gives me a grsat grand father as a soldier in that war

The record for the nearest to the Revolution is held by Judge Lively, of the Supreme court His grand father was a soldier of the Revolutian. His ancestor was Godrill Lively who was born in 1762 He entered the army from Albermarle county in 1780, and served three campaigns, the last of which was for twenty two months.

He was married in 1794, and Judge Lively's father was born in 1815, and Judge Lively was born in 1864. The Judge's father fell dead of heart dis

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He was married in 1794, and Judge Lively's father was born in 1815, and Judge Lively was born in 1864. The Judge's father fell dead of heart dis ease while reading the dispatch that announced the surrender of Lee at Appomattox.

Margaret Beard Price was left with four children, the oldest being my grandfather James A. Price. He married on the Marlins Bottom plantation and brought his mother and two full sisters to live here. A young er brother, Thompson Price died in Botetourt county.

In 1838, Margaret Beard Price decided to settle in the Levels. Her daughter Medora had married William Hamilton and was living at Mountain Grove. Her other daughter Virginia Agnes had married Nathaniel Kelley of Monroe county. There was four children and Nathaniel Kelley died a young man and his widow with the four children came

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Margaret lived at that place seven years and the four Kelley children got the advantage of a splendid school at Hillsboro under the instruction of a Mr. Brown and later Rev. M. D Dunlap, both noted teachers. My father also attended school at the same time from his grandmother's house. Mrs. Kelley only lived a year

years and the four Kelley children got the advantage of a splendid school at Hillsboro under the instruction of a Mr. Brown and later Rev. M. D Dunlap, both noted teachers. My father also attended school at the same time from his grandmother's house Mrs Kelley only lived a year at the Levels and the four children were thrown on Margaret's hands, and the rest of her life seems to have been spent caring for them. She sold the farm in the Levels in 1845 to James Lewis for eight hundred dollars and moved back to the house on Powell Hill, where she departed this life in the spring of 1848, aged about sixty years.

She made a will that was witnessed by her brother Josiah Beard and by Woods Poage. She was concerned about the schooling of the Kelley children and mentioned the matter in the will.

Like the Hamiltons, the Kelleys scattered out in the wide world. William Scott Kelley was the oldest. He was born in 1827, and was eighteen years old when Margaret died. He got the gold fever and made it to California where he stayed a few years. He was next heard of as one of the famous sporting fraternity on the steam boat lines between Cincinnati and New Orleans. But he seemed from the first to have charged himself with the support and schooling of his two young sisters. He gave them both a most complete education Catherine was a graduate of Miss

California where he stayed a few years. He was next heard of as one of the famous sporting fraternity on the steam boat lines between Cincinnati and New Orleans. But he seemed from the first to have charged himself with the support and schooling of his two young sisters. He gave them both a most complete education Catherine was a graduate of Miss Maria Richard's school at the Warm Springs and she married Dr. W. N. Snodgrass and settled in Missouri. And the other sister went to the school taught by the Misses Dangerfield at Hot Springs, Virginia, and married Dr. Charles T. Hart and lived in New York City.

William Scott Kelley turned over a new leaf in the fifties, and graduated in medicine in Cincinnati in 1828, and located in Buchannon county, Missouri. He was a friend of Gen. Sterling Price, and was appointed surgeon general of Price's army and died during the war. Dr. Kelley stood high in the estimation of the people at the date of his death. He left one child a daughter who married Geo. L. Rector of Arkanssas and

who was the mother of seven children so Dr. Kelley has many descendants in that state.

Margaret was concerned about Samuel Henry Kelley and provided for his schooling. But in 1848, he too got the gold fever and left for California, and after a considerable period he settled at Los Angeles and was keeping a store there in the year 1861. One night in the year 1861, a band of Mexican bandits attacked the store and the place was defended by the owner, but the store was broken into, Kelley was killed, and the store robbed, and the building burned. We do not know whether he left any descendants or not. But that fight was the forerunner of Hollywood and the western fight pictures.

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We hear that Margaret was not popular and that she had a temper and that she could not live with people. But a study of her life leads me to a different conclusion. I think that she was a noble woman. She was married as a girl of about twenty years to a man over sixty years of age, and a man who had had a wonderful war record as an Indian fighter and soldier. He seems to have been constantly on the fighting border for something like thirty years, and you can trace him through the Indian days of the sixties, and at Point Pleasant, in the Virginia militia, and in the Continental army, and at Kings Mountain. He had raised one large family and had a son who was in the 1812 war.

After a few years of life married to a man old enough to be her grandfather she was left with four small children and no means to speak of. There did seem to be some slaves who were kind and loyal and helpful to her. Her oldest son having mar-

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After a few years of life married to a man old enough to be her grandfather she was left with four small children and no means to speak of. There did seem to be some slaves who were kind and loyal and helpful to her. Her oldest son having married into a land rich family here at Marlinton gave her an opportunity to escape from Botetourt county back to the valley in which she was born, and here she saw her daughters happily married. But soon Virginia came home a poor widow with four small children and from that time on Margaret lived for her grandchildren. There were ten of the Hamilton grandchildren, but they were no burden to her, for William Hamilton, the land clearer, was able to look after them. The Kelley children were smart and so she moved to the best school in the valley, the school that Greenbrier county patronized so well. Then in a year after that

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Seven years seems to have been the period that Margaret lived in the Levels. Then she came back and lived three years more on Powell Hill, on the Huntersville road. But in that time she had her plantation in order. She had a black man by the name of Jerry. William Scott Kelley pulled out for the setting sun about the time she moved back. He was undoubtedly gone for she wills him the money she had loaned him, but does not provide him with a feather bed, underbed, and bed clothing and bed linen. It is apparent that he had lit out for a place where there were no feather beds needed or desired. He was one of the Argonauts for the golden fleece

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She was careful to provide for each one of her descendants and her will shows that she was mindful of each and every one of them. She remembers them all and goes into detail about her estate. She is careful to require schooling, and in a few years the wild brother in the west is sending back great scads of money and the two girls were being schooled at the best of schools. Medora Kelley graduated at Hollins Institute is 1858, and was probably the first woman college graduate of Pocahontas county.

In the will is set forth almost in full, Catherine's name, where she is described as Margaret Catherine Mary Ann M. Kelley.

At the time of her death, Margaret had horses, cattle, money, and a best

saddle, and another saddle and a clock.

The most illuminating article in the loom. The clock, and the loom and all its equipment is left to her daughter Mrs. Hamilton, as well as a feather bed.

Margaret lived twenty-five years a widow and death and trials and tribulations were her portion. But she had a loom, and according to the way it is referred to in the will, it was in running order at the time of her departure. It was in the loom that women of that day and time wove and fastened securely all their troubles and worries. Here is what Senor Ovid had to say about weaving:

The piece prepare
And order every slender thread with care;
The web enwraps the beam, the reed divides,
While through the widening space the shuttle glides,
Which their swift hands receive, then poised with lead
The swinging weight strikes close the inserted thread.

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The swinging weight strikes close the inserted thread.

Ovid wrote that before the birth of Christ, but he describes the loom that our mothers used a few short years ago. But Margaret also belonged to the day when they spun the wool and flax into the yarn that was used for the loom.

Three yards of fine woolen or linen cloth was considered a fair days work for woman, or ten yards of carpet. For three yards of fine cloth the shuttle was thrown three thousand times, the treadle pressed three thousand times, the batten swung three thousand times.

It was very soothing to the nerves and the magnificent women of America are the fruit of the loom. They

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It was very soothing to the nerves and the magnificent women of America are the fruit of the loom. They come from ancestry to whom weaving was as soothing to the nerves as honey to the bee. We may have to get back to some good healthful rec reation like that.

This is a section devoted to the memory of a good woman who had very little fun but who carried on to the end.

Notice of Sale of School Property

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of Edray District, Pocahontas county, West Vir-